

TRUST

'Ni Dieu XI Maitre'

X111 Bis Rocords 526902

If you know of this French band at all, then it's probably because they supported Iron Maiden in 1981, when the band's drummer was none other than a certain Nicko McBrain (now what did happen to him?). Or because they recorded an album in 1980 called 'Repression', with lyrics supplied by Sham 69 stalwart Jimmy Pursey (Bon Scott was originally set to work with Trust on this album, but died before he could get to grips with the project).

However, that's just the tip of this gallic iceberg. For more than 20 years, the band have provided classy punk- metal that has never fallen into cliche and always retained an aggressive, contemporary edge even if, for most of the time, the lyrics are in French.

'Ni Dieu Ni Maitre' is no exception to the Trust norm, being full of vibrant, vital punk-metal that still has a spit-in-the-eye anti-establishment blaze about it. And if there's nothing here that really compares to the majesty of 'Repression', this doesn't detract from the fact that Trust have still made a distinctly relevant record.

Malcolm Dome